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~Allegiances~

[image]

Hi hi!
This is my second book, and publishing schedules are going to change from the first book.
I'll publish whenever I feel like it.
You can remind my to get a chapter done if it's been a while.
I understand sarcasm, so I can take a joke.
I've been working hard on this book, and I hope y'all enjoy it!

A bit of criticism is always good. I can take it if it'll help me improve on my writing.

Treeclan

Leader
Stonestar- dark grey tom with black paws
Apprentice- Needlepaw

Deputy
Wrentail- cream white she- cat with light blue eyes
Apprentice- Silverpaw

Medicine cat
Branchfoot- light brown tabby tom
Apprentice- Snowpaw

Warriors
Amberflame- light orange she- cat
Frostfeather- brown and white she- cat
Apprentice- Treepaw
Blazetail- light brown tom with dark paws, muzzle and tail
Lightsky- white she- cat with orange ears and tail
Apprentice- Leafpaw
Swiftfeather- tortoiseshell she- cat
Stemflower- black she- cat with yellow eyes

Bluenose- fluffy grey tom
Apprentice- Blackpaw
Honeypelt- golden tabby she- cat
Apprentice- Pouncepaw
Rainheart- grey and white tom
Apprentice- Ashpaw
Sweetberry- orange tom
Whiteleg- fluffy black tom with white paws

Apprentices
Leafpaw- light brown tabby she- cat with amber eyes
Treepaw- dark brown tabby tom
Snowpaw- black she- cat with white patches and green eyes
Pouncepaw- small brown tom with a white muzzle
Needlepaw- fluffy orange she- cat
Ashpaw- fluffy grey she- cat
Blackpaw- black she- cat
Silverpaw- silver tom

Queens
Smalldawn- golden she- cat with green eyes
Mate: Blazetail

Elders
Spotear- white tom with black spots

Moonclan

Leader
Lightstar- Siamese she- ca
Apprentice- Starpaw

Deputy
Wetbranch- fluffy tortoiseshell she- cat

Medicine cats
Hazelfur- yellow she- cat with amber eyes
Blacknose- grey tom with a black nose

Warriors

Lionfoot- golden tom
Apprentice- Smallpaw
Stripetail- white tom with black stripes and green eyes
Needlepelt- fluffy brown she- cat
Apprentice- Goldenpaw
Rockfall- grey tom with blue eyes
Birchleaf- brown tabby tom with white paws and tail
Copperpatch- fluffy white tom with yellow- orange patches
Robinswoop- sand coloured she- cat
Apprentice- Maplepaw
Goldenheart- fluffy yellow tom with amber eyes

Apprentices
Starpaw- black she- cat with white speckles
Maplepaw- orange tom
Smallpaw- very small orange and black she- cat

Queens
Bluewhisker- grey- blue she- cat (mother to Rosekit- cream white she- kit, Wingkit- orange tabby she- kit, and Leopardkit- yellow tom with brown spots
Mate: Lionfoot
Tansyfoot- pure white she- cat
Mate: Birchleaf

Elders
Mousenose- brown tom
Meadowtail- rusty she- cat with white paws
Hollysplash- fluffy black she- cat with a white tipped tail
Sparrowflight- grey tabby tom

Brookclan
Leader
Foxstar- bright orange tom

Deputy
Rainfall- black she- cat

Medicine cat

Bigear- brown tabby tom with big ears
Apprentice- Redpaw

Warriors
Wavetail- blue- grey she- cat
Apprentice- Juniperpaw
Silverwater- deaf white she- cat
Ravenwing- black tom with bright green eyes
Apprentice- Pondpaw
Greyclaw- dark grey fluffy tom
Apprentice- Frogpaw
Berryfur- black and white she- cat
Ivydew- calico she- cat
Apprentice- Cloudpaw
Flowerpool- brown tabby she- cat
Apprentice- Smokepaw
Daisyfoot- very light brown she- cat
Slatewing- white tom
Apprentice- Mountainpaw
Darksky- black tom with yellow eyes
Rustycloud- white tom with ginger splotches

Apprentices
Pondpaw- brown tom
Smokepaw- grey tabby tom
Mountainpaw- light grey she- cat
Juniperpaw- orange tabby tom
Cloudpaw- white she- cat
Frogpaw- fluffy orange tom with flashing blue eyes
Redpaw- dark ginger tom with big black paws

Elders
Mossfield- tortoiseshell she- cat
Brightnose- yellow she- cat
Smokeshine- grey tom

Cats outside the clans

Fern- light grey she- cat- formerly Featherpaw of Brookclan
Swoop- grey tortoiseshell queen (mother to Alder- brown tom, Breeze, Minnow and Briar- tortoiseshell she- kits, Starling- orange

and white tom, Barley- tortoiseshell tom, and Boulder- black and white tom)
Jade- white she- cat with grey tabby splotches
Thistle- big brown tom with white paws, stomach, muzzle and chest
Matt- brown tom
Latte- orange she- cat

Prologue

[image]

A light brown tabby tom touched noses to a sparkling white crystal. He was instantly standing in a starlit forest, shifting his paws.
A white she- cat padded up. Her pelt was as sparkly as the forest.
"Branchfoot." She greeted him.
"Waterheart!" Branchfoot exclaimed. "I didn't expect to see you!"
Another brown tabby appeared beside Waterheart.
"You won't know who I am, Branchfoot," The she- cat purred. "but I received a message many moons ago, and Waterheart is here to share it."
"Thank you, Leafheart." Waterheart dipped her head in respect. "As Leafheart said, she received a message.
Moons upon moons ago, there were these cats called the Shadowcats. They caused much destruction and fear among the clans.
Starclan sent a message to the medicine cat-" She gestured to Leafheart. "-that said:
When the sun casts its light, shadows appear, but when the clouds block the light, the shadows disappear.
Nothing can calm the rising storm..."
"So that's what you meant just before you died!" Branchfoot realized. "Sun, light, shadows, disappear, calm, storm, it was part of a prophesy!"
"Correct."
"But why are you telling me this now?"
"The Shadows are rising again."
"Should I tell Stonestar?" Branchfoot looked around wildly.
"No." Leafheart answered. "Starclan will tell him when the time is right."
"But now I must give you another prophesy." Waterheart continued. "It connects with the first one. Remember them both forever.
Nothing can calm the rising storm, but lost must be found for hope..."

In the light of the moon, two cats sat on the roof of a shed. One grey and black she- cat with dark spots, and the other a grey she-

cat with white toes.
"Miss your kit?" The grey and black one asked, licking her younger sister's head.
"Yes." She nodded. Her white paws were glowing in the moonlight.
"Oh Hawk." She blinked up at the stars. "Do you think she's still alive?"
"I'm sure she is." Hawk comforted. "She's strong."
"But what if she drowned?"
"I doubt it."
"How would you know?"
"I'm older than you, Snowshoe. I have seen more things in my lifetime than you have."
Snowshoe closed her eyes.
A grey kitten flashed in her vision.
The small kit- much bigger and stronger than the last time Snowshoe had seen her- was running through a field.
Her face was determined, walking to a place she didn't know for sure existed, but was willing to find out.
"My kit!" Snowshoe exclaimed. "My kit is coming home!"

Chapter 1~ Remember forever

[image]

The field stretching out before her and the clans behind her, Fern walked on.
She looked back to see a trail of flattened grass where she had been running.
I never thought any of this'd happen, and yet here I am, in search of a lost memory.
But what exactly am I looking for?

Her own questions confused her.
She padded forwards and didn't look back again.
I've left the clans behind. Will I ever come back?

She didn't know any of the answers to the questions, but she wished she did.
It would make my life so much easer if I knew who my family was.
Why did Lightsky have to find me?

She tripped over a stone and landed on her nose.
"Ow!" She scrambled up, but sat down again, licking her bruised nose.
She would miss some cats, like Ashpaw, Bluenose, Flowerpool, Rustycloud and Redpaw.
But I'm not going back! Everyone else in the clan hates me.
She saw a small thicket ahead and decided to stop traveling during the day, and start by night.
She padded towards it slowly, grabbed some heather on the way, and made a nest, where she lay down to rest.

"Young kit." Fernkit nodded to Waterheart. "You haven't visited for a long time. Why?"
Fernkit narrowed her eyes. "Shouldn't you know? I'm a murderer."
"You don't believe that nonsense, do you?"

"N-no." The grey kit flicked her ears. They hurt from the training with Bluenose. "I've been thinking a lot about what you said last time.

Something about when I'm alone, you will tell me a prophecy, and then the lost legacy will be found again."
"You remembered." Waterheart purred. "That was a while ago."
Fernkit's pelt was itching to know.
The elder started.

"When the sun casts its light, shadows appear, but when clouds block the light, the shadows disappear.
Nothing can calm the rising storm."
"Sun, light, shadows, disappear, calm, storm." Fernkit wondered.
"Remember this message forever."

Fern jerked awake.
I will try to remember it, Waterheart.
"Sun, light, shadows, disappear, calm, storm."

Chapter 2~ Well, well, well

[image]

-Three days later-

"Who's there?" Fern demanded. She could smell a cat.
The fur on her neck bristled. She could smell that it was a tom, and not a friendly one.
"This is my territory!" The snarl came from the branch above her.
She looked up and a shower of bark flew into her eyes.
While she was blinded, pawing at her eyes to get the bark out, she heard a thump beside her a knew the tom had jumped down.

"I'll give you a two second head start. Onetwo."
Fern, still blinded, was knocked to the ground instantly.
She'd never fought blindly before, but hey, you're never too old to learn!
She kicked up, feeling his warm blood as she scratched his stomach.
"Ow!" He yowled and jumped back.

She quickly blinked out the last pieces of bark.
The tom she was facing was a brown cat with deep blue eyes.
"Get out of my territory." He growled.
Fern knew it would be better if she did and *didn't* put up a fight, but you know Fern. She doesn't back down.

She snarled at him. "No."
Then she realized that he was just acting tough.
"Please?" He asked.
Shejumped at him. "No." He was very easy to defeat.
Another cat scent washed over her.
A she- cat.
"Matt?" The other cat called. "Matt, the housefolk refilled our dish, come!" She emerged to see her friend pinned by a cat half his size.
She purred in amusement. "Well, well, well. What do we have here? Looks like the tough cat found his match in strength."

"Latte, stop please." Matt struggled to get Fern off.

Fern felt like they were no longer a threat, so she hopped off.
Matt stood up quickly, obviously embarrassed that he had been beaten by a cat half his size.
"Hi, little one. What's your name?" Latte asked.
"I'm Fern, and I'm not 'little'."
"But you're not big."

She couldn't argue to that.
Her stomach growled. She realized she hadn't eaten for a long time.
"Well, Fern, would you like to come to our barn? We have lots of food."
"I- I'm kinda trying to get somewhere."
"Where? I bet I can get help."
I can't tell you. "I think I have a little bit of time to spare. I'll come."
Her stomach needed food before she continued anyway.

Chapter 3~ Matt and Latte

[image]

A gust of wind blew Fern's ruffled fur as the three cats emerged from the shelter of the trees.
"Seriously?" Matt had hissed when Latte had invited her to come to the barn. "You're going to let this cat who could've killed me into our home?"

Latte hadn't hesitated. "Of course. She's hungry, and we have plenty of food to spare."
Fern rolled her eyes.
Those two.
A huge red barn lay in front of them, and she guessed that was their home.

"Welcome." Latte purred when they entered the barn.
The inside was huge!
"Our home is upstairs. Come."
She lead them up a ladder and into the loft.
Golden light shone through the holes and cracks in the roof and walls.
It smelled musty, and the rich scent of mice hung in the air.
Lots of mice.

"Help yourself." Latte meowed. "Matt and I are going down to get the food that the housefolk gave us, but I bet you probably prefer mice."
Fern nodded and Matt jumped to the ladder, wanting to get away from Fern as quick as possible, then the orange she- cat followed, leaving Fern to hunt.
A mouse scurried across the floor and hid behind a hay stack.
Food is here.

She dropped into a hunter's crouch and crept forward, completely silent.
She turned the corner around the hay stack as me saw exactly what she wanted, a fat, juicy mouse.

She jumped, landing squarely on its back. She delivered the killing bite and devoured it within a few heartbeats.

She was still hungry, so she looked around for more food. Some pigeons roosted on some beams supporting the roof.
Those look tasty. She thought.
Without hesitating, she launched herself up onto one of the higher Haybale's, then she jumped to the next one, and the next, until she was high enough to be able to jump onto one of the beams.

She did it silently, and none of the dumb birds noticed.
She was about to pounce on one, when a meow sounded below her, sending all the pigeons flying.
"Hey, Fern!" It was Matt.
"You just scared away my lunch!" She exclaimed. Then lost her balance.
Wind rushed against her pelt. Her heart felt like it was in her throat.
She landed on a tightly rapped hay bail, and it was not soft.
She felt a sharp pain in her front left leg as the breath was taken right out of her, and the world spun around her.

Two blurry shapes were leaning over her.
"Matt, what happened?"
"I- I don't know. She just... fell."
"Fern, just rest. We'll take care of you."
Fern took a shuddering breath and let herself slip off into sleep.

Chapter 4~ Cats

[image]

Fern woke to a sharp pang in her leg.
She hissed in pain and her eyes flew open to see Latte pressing down on Fern's paw.
It hurt so badly that she wanted to go to Starclan already.
"Sorry." Latte flinched at Fern's yowl. "Your leg is broken. You won't be going anywhere for a while."

At first she was confused. *What leg? It feels like it fell off.*
Latte pushed down again.
"Ow!" Fern cried. "What are you doing to me?"
"Your leg is broken and dislocated. I'm trying to push it back into place."
Another hard push and Fern heard a snap as the leg slid back into place.
She flinched, sharp pangs shooting through her.
"Matt is off catching some food for you. He thinks it was his fault and he's really really sorry."
It was his fault! Fern wanted to snarl, but the pain was making it hard to say anything.

"Look, I'm sorry." Matt meowed, dropping a dead pigeon beside her. "I didn't think that you'd fall."
"Sorry doesn't get my leg fixed. now I'm going to be stuck here for Starclan knows how long."
"What's Starclan?" Latte had just climbed to the top of the ladder with more herbs. "It sounds familiar."

"That doesn't matter." Fern flinched as Matt accidently touched her leg as he was walking away. "But how do you know how to use herbs?"
Latte started rapping her leg in herbs before talking.
"My old housefolk use to live beside a forest. there were wild cats living there, and my friends had heard rumors that they eat live animals and sharpen their claws on the bones-"

Is she talking about... the clans?

"-and I was young and kind of stupid, so I went out, and guess who I met? A wild cat. but she wasn't at all like a cat who would eat live animals. Her name was Hazelpaw or something like that-"
Definitely a clan cat.
"- she said that she was training to be the medicine cat of... umm... I think it was Noonclan."
Moonclan.

"She taught me all about herbs, then my housefolk gave me away- I don't know why- and I ended up here."
So you know the clans, huh? Well, so do I. And I haven't had the best experiences there, let me tell you.
"Do tell, please." Matt meowed.

Chapter 5~ Clans

[image]

"Uh, I didn't mean to say that out loud." Fern mewed.
"But you did, so now you have to tell." Matt said.
"W-well... a clan cat chased me over the edge of a cliff."
"Then how are you still alive?" Latte asked.

"There was water at the bottom."
"But how did you get there in the first place? No lies."
"I- I don't actually know how I got there, but I do now that ever since I woke up one morning, I saw Treeclan, and all I can remember of a way of life is life in the clans." Latte and Matt were staring at her, the look in their eyes telling her to keep talking, so the continued. "I was loved for some time by the only mother I ever knew- Lightsky. But then a death happened and they blamed it on me, then everycat hated me.

Except Bluenose. He taught me how to defend myself. Then I became an apprentice, and my mentor tried to kill me, and he crashed into me when I was running away, then we both fell over the edge of a cliff. Pineclaw died, but Rustycloud saved me, and I lived in Brookclan for a while, but then... I left." She didn't feel like she wanted to tell them why- or how- she left, because it didn't sound like something that a Warrior would do- I mean, how gets chased out of their clan just because they mixed up a name?

"Oh. I didn't know you knew that much." Latte meowed.
"Yeah..." Matt stood up. "I'm going to sleep now. That story exhausted me."
"I'll join you." Latte yawned. "But first I need to get a few more herbs for Fern."
Fern rested her head. She was tired too.

She hoped something interesting would happen soon, so she wouldn't have to get so bored every day.
I guess I'll just have to wait and see what happens.

One of my cats had her kittens yesterday.
She had seven, but two of them might loose both of their hind legs, and it's very sad.
The cat who had kittens is the grey cat in the prologue- Snowshoe.

[image]

I'm saying this because I probably won't be as active for the next few days, 'cause one of the injured kittens needs to be bottle fed.

Bye for now!!!
-Meowlia

Chapter 6~ Eagle, Smudge and Moon

[image]

Fern had been lying in her nest for five days and was starting to get restless when Latte padded over.
"Matt went out to see the cats from the other farm." She began.
"And he told them about you. They said that you should start trying to strengthen your leg or it won't heal."
"Okay." Fern struggled up and tested her paw. She flinched as a sharp pang shot up, but she didn't give up.
"One of the cats- Moon- would like to meet you. Would you like to take a walk? We could walk over once you're ready."
"Sure." *You mean* you *could walk, and I could limp along behind slowly.*
She felt like she needed to meet this cat 'Moon'.

"Hurry." Latte called. "Or the human's machines might catch up."
"I'm trying!" Fern hopped on three legs after the older cat.
The field was large, but only behind them. In front she could see a grey-white building, and close to that was a big red barn.
As they approached, Fern could make out three cats.
Sniffing the air, she could tell that there were two she- cats and one tom.
There scent was very familiar.
"Eagle, Smudge, Moon! We're here!" Latte meowed.
A white tom with grey tabby splotches padded over, followed by a heavily pregnant black she- cat with a white muzzle and toes, then another black she- cat with a white chin and toes.
"You must be Fern." The black chinned cat meowed. "I'm Moon. You look very familiar. Almost like..." She paused. "My mother!"

Chapter 7~ Farm

[image]

"I look like your mother?" Fern shook her head. "I've never had kits. I'm too young."
"No- I know that!" Moon purred. "But you must be related somehow. Where do you come from?"
"No idea. That's what I'm trying to find out."
"So you don't know where you're from?"
"No idea."
"I think I know."
Fern looked up quickly. "You do?"
"A small farm. There is a small farm with a small barn that is called the 'cat shed' where a lot of cats live. Does the name 'Snowshoe' sound familiar?"
Fern stepped back and flinched as her paw hit the ground, but she knew that name- from so long ago. "That sounds... like..." She wasn't even sure what it sounded like. "Can I visit this 'Snowshoe'? I think I need to find out."
"That might be tough." The other black and white she- cat meowed. "They don't live very close."
"No." The tom broke in. "But they come once a week."
Moon jerked her head to look at him. "And today's..."
"Sunday."
"They come tomorrow." Moon looked like she had an idea. "If we could get into the vehicle without them noticing, we could get a ride all the way to the small farm."
"Hold on." Fern sat. "We?"

Sorry for another short chapter, but that was all I could think of right then.
The farm that Fern is at right now is a real place, and Eagle, Smudge and Moon are all real cats that I know. They all came from my house.
So is the person that comes every week and the small farm.

Bye for now!!!
-Meowlia

Chapter 8~ Beans and Chess

[image]

"Yes, we." Moon meowed. "I would like to go visit my mother again."
"A- are you sure?" Eagle asked cautiously. "It could be dangerous."
"Yes, it will be dangerous." The black and white she- cat nodded. "But more dangerous if there's one one cat- especially if that one cat has a broken leg."
Fern didn't like how her voice sounded. It made Fern sound... useless.
"That's true." Latte licked Fern's forehead.
Fern ducked and moved farther away from the she- cat.
"Fern." Smudge mewed, her big stomach swaying as she stood quickly. "Would you like to stay at our barn for the night? Beans knows a lot about healing. He can help you."
Fern shrugged. "I don't care." She licked her paw- trying to hold back a flinch. "I just don't like feeling useless."
Latte purred and licked Fern again. "See ya, little cat." She padded towards the field.
"I'm not that little." Fern hissed quietly.
She overheard Eagle.
"I see she's strong headed." He was whispering to his mate. "Moon will have her paws full."
She rolled her eyes and shook her grey fur. "Can we go?"
Moon purred in amusement. "Sure."

"Hi, little cat." A black and white tom greeted them as they entered a huge barn- bigger than Matt and Latte's.
When will everyone stop calling me little?!!
"My name's Fern, and that's what I go by, thank you very much."
"I'm Beans. Nice to meet you." He sniffed her leg. "Come with me. I'll get you a nest and we can have a look at that leg of yours."
Another black cat with white paws appeared beside Beans.
"Hi! I'm Chess. Brother of Beans, Snowstorm, Wilbur and Chance, son of Luna and Boots."
"Oh, quite an introduction." Fern mewed. "Am I supposed to know

those cats?"
"Nah."
But they do sound familiar.
"Come, let's give this visitor a rest." Moon purred. "We have quite the journey to go on tomorrow."

All these cats are real!
Chess and Beans and all their siblings and their mother and father. All real cats.

Bye for now!!!
-Meowlia

Chapter 9~ Forgetting

[image]

The next day Fern woke up confused. She was staring at a barn roof.
What? Where's the Brookclan apprentice den?
She shook her head and stood up, and pang shot up her leg.
She couldn't remember anything.
She saw a strange black she- cat with white toes sitting over a bowl of something brown and hard shaped like rabbit droppings.
"Good morning, Fern." The cat purred. "You're finally awake. The housefolk who comes every week will be coming soon."
"What 'housefolk'? Who are you, and how do you know my name? Where's Rustycloud?"
The she- cat looked confused. "What're you talking about? Who's Rustycloud?"
"Rustycloud's my mentor!" Fern hissed, struggling to walk. "What happened to my leg? Why does it hurt?"
Another black and white cat came over.
"Beans," The she- cat mewed. "Fern is having some trouble. Do you know of anything that can help?"
"Yes." Beans nodded and ran off.
Fern collapsed as blackness engulfed her.

"Hey Featherpaw!" Featherpaw turned to see Pondpaw waving his brown tail. "Rustycloud and Ravenwing are on hunting patrol, and Mountainpaw convinced Slatewing to let us join. C'mon!"
Featherpaw gobbled the rabbit leg she was eating and sprang after the brown tom.
"Wait for me!" She yowled as they launched into the water.
She wasn't very good at swimming, but she could at least get in and out of camp.

After the patrol

Featherpaw emerged from the water and shook herself, and Rustycould did the same.

"You can go have a break now." Her mentor meowed. "Tomorrow we will try learning to climb the cliff."

So that's what happened...

Fern jerked awake and everything was remembered.
Countless voices echoed in her head as she limped away to go find Moon.
"How would you know, kittypet?"
"I don't know who I want to see. I don't have kin here."
"I heard you've had trouble with other kits calling you a kittypet."
"Fernkit! What did you do?"
"Shadows? Cats made of shadows?"
"Owlkit? Owlkit, can you here me?"
"Hey Treepaw, your mangy clanmates are here."
"So all this was caused by a tiny kit that was exploring."
"Waterheart has gone to walk in Starclan."
"No one likes you, so I wonder... who will be your mentor? I don't think anyone will want to."
"Pineclaw is coming, and he won't stop till you're dead, so run!"
"This is Fern."
"Will you join Brookclan?"
"Featherpaw! Featherpaw!"
"You're acting like a Treeclan cat, you're climbing like it's a tree!"
"Yes, Bluenose..."
"You're Treeclan, aren't you."
"Sun, light, shadows, disappear, calm, storm."
Then something she was familiar with, but only the first bit.
"Nothing can calm the rising storm, but lost must be found for hope..."

Chapter 10~ Moonclan territory

[image]

Amberflame jumped after the hunting patrol. She emerged into the clearing that marked the border of Moonclan.
"How do Moonclan cats live with this stench?" She growled to herself.
"I don't know." Bluenose hissed, wrinkling his nose.
She saw a streak of white, and the scent of rabbit overtook her.
She sprang after it, everything went blurry except for the juicy, plump rabbit.
"Wait! Amberflame!" Wrentail yowled after her. "That's Moonclan territory!"
Amberflame flicked her tail and kept running.
It wasn't respectful to disobey the deputy, but she needed to catch that rabbit.
Suddinly, she heard voices. She stopped just in time to dive behind a bush.
A fluffy tortoiseshell she- cat- who Amberflame recognized as Wetbranch, the deputy of Moonclan- jumped on the rabbit and killed it.
That was mine! She didn't have time to fight, because a small black apprentice with white speckles jumped out and snarled at the Moonclan deputy.
"You watched my mentor die!"
"So?" Wetbranch hissed.
Deaths?
"Why?" The apprentice showed little fear.
"*Why?* Why are you asking me this now? It was moons ago!"
"I had to wait until we were alone. If I had said anything earlier, do you think Lightstar would've believed me? You're her deputy."
"No, and she never will."
"What did you actually come out here to do?" Starpaw challenged.
"None of y- hunting." The tortoiseshell meowed.
You're really bad at lying.

"Oh really?" Starpaw flexed her claws, and a small clump of long black fur fell to the ground. "What's this then? It's not clan cat fur, so who's is it?"
Wetbranch hissed in annoyance. She could tell that there was no getting out of this easily.
"I found it in your nest." The apprentice continued. "It looks like you've been training with somecat- a rogue perhaps?"
She sighed and shook her head. "Well, you know too much." She bared her teeth. "So I'm going to have to kill you." She lunged.
What? That took a turn.
They fought for a few heartbeats, but it was obvious who would win.
Sure enough, the apprentice was pinned, then blood flowed.
Starpaw gasped, then fell still.
"Great." Wetbranch growled. "Now I have to go get someone to help me bury her." She padded away, leaving the rabbit and the dead body.
Except it wasn't a dead body. Amberflame ran over to the apprentice and sniffed. There was still a small flutter of a heartbeat in her chest.
"She's alive!"

"So you said you found her like this?" Branchfoot sniffed the small cat.
"Well... not exactly." She explained what she'd seen, and both him and Snowpaw listened wide-eyed.
"Well, she's a strong cat." Snowpaw meowed.
"We should be able to save her, but she will probably never be strong enough again to be a warrior."

So I finally got some events from the clans, and not just from Fern's travels. I have a feeling I'm going to enjoy writing this more now. This book is going to be longer than the first one I'm sure, because I originally planned it differently, but I ended up adding a bunch of extra chapters, and Fern's not even at the small farm yet. This'll be fun to write :)

Bye for now!!!
-Meowlia

Chapter 11~ The ride

[image]

"So there it is." Moon nodded to a blue monster. "Our ride."
"I- I'm not do sure about this anymore." Fern felt fear rising through her fur. "What if we have to run for some reason? I won't be able to because of my useless leg." She lifted the leg glumly.
"Look," Moon comforted. "if we have to do any running I'll help you. Don't worry, we'll be fine."
"You sure?"
"W-well... I've never actually been in a car except once when the housefolk of my mother brought me here. But I'm sure we'll be fine."

"You ready?" Moon nudged Fern forward.
"I-I-" She took a deep breath. "Yes. I'm ready."
She jumped into the trunk of the monster. Moon followed and lead her over the back seats and onto the ground in a hidden area.
"Now we wait." Moon nodded, closing her eyes.
How can you sleep now? Fern's heart was thumping from fear and hope. *Maybe I'll get to see my family. All I wanted was a family that loves me.*
She must've fallen asleep because she jerked awake as she felt the whole monster move.
Moon had woken up too.
"Just don't make any noise." She whispered. "Or the housefolk will find us."
"Okay." Fern closed her eyes again.

The moving had stopped. Fern froze.
"Are we here?"
"I- I don't know." Moon jumped up onto a seat and looked out the window. "No, this isn't the place."

Finally, I got another chapter finished. It's short, but it's better than nothing, right?

Bye for now!!!
-Meowlia

Chapter 12~ Something is coming

[image]

Starpaw could feel pain. She didn't remember having any feelings of pain in Starclan.
She'd been happy there, except for the fact that one of the ancient cats had kept on meowing that she was still needed in the clans.

She blinked open her eyes and stared up in shock. "Why am I here? Where's Starclan?"
"It's okay." A white she- cat about the same age of Starpaw purred. "I'm Snowpaw, medicine cat apprentice of Treeclan."

"Treeclan? What? I'm Starclan now."
"Not anymore. Who tried to kill you anyway? Was it one of your clanmates?"
"Yes." Starpaw hissed angrily. "Wetbranch was my clanmate."
"Why would the deputy try to kill you?" A different cat- a tom- asked.
Starpaw sat up slowly. "Why're you asking me so many questions? I literally just came from Starclan, and now I'm in Treeclan? I'm sorry, but this is a lot to understand. Please explain."
"Okay." Snowpaw started the story, and after she finished, Starpaw twitched her ears in shock.
"So someone did save me."

"And you've been sleeping- or uncontiouse- for a few days already."
"Where is Amberflame? Can I talk to her?"
"She's on a hunting patrol. I can send somecat to go get her."
"Yes please."

A little while later, an orange she-cat entered the den.
"Hi, Starpaw." She meowed. "How're you doing?"
"Pretty good. I can't come out of the nest, and I have a headache, but other than that, pretty good." Starpaw licked her tail. "But how did you find me?"

"That was a few days ago." Amberflame flicked her ear as if trying to get a fly to leave. "But I was chasing a rabbit and ended up on Moonclan territory. I saw Wetbranch try to kill you, but as she walked off, I brought you back to Treeclan. Now here you are."

"Then that means I can't go back." Starpaw hissed. "Why did Wetbranch have to make my mentor die?! Why're clanmates turning against each other?!"
"They are?"
"Yes. Something is coming. Something dark. I can feel it."

Publishing schedule is every Monday.

Bye for now!!!
-Meowlia

Chapter 13~ Trying to travel home

[image]

Fern took a deep breath.
"Are you sure you're ready for this?" Moon asked.
"Yes." The grey she-cat nodded, gazing at the large Thunderpath that lay in front of them. "Yes. I'm ready to know the truth about myself. Where I belong."

"Good." Moon purred. "Then let's go across when I say so." They stood in silence for a few heartbeats, monsters roaring past, before the black and white cat yelled. "Go!"

Fern launched herself onto the cold, hard surface, heart pounding. She heard a roar and froze.
"Don't stop!" Moon yowled too late. The monster was screaming towards her.

"This isn't the place you're looking for." The strange black and white cat meowed.
"Then where are we?" Moon questioned. They had managed to get out of the monster without being seen, but now the were standing beside a tiny shack beside the house.
The black and white cat was a male, and a very fluffy one too. Beside him stood a black tom with white and silver specks.

"This is my home. Mine and Bob's."
"I know that." Fern hissed. "But I need to get home!"
"Don't worry. You're very close." The fluffy tom purred, yellow eyes flashing. "I'm Max, by the way. You?"
"I'm Moon." Moon dipped her head.
"And I'm Fern, the cat who want's to go."
"The place you're looking for is very close. I came from there. My mother's name is Lily, and my father is Boots."

"I came from there too! I know Lily. She was kind, but she could get moody. I'm Snowshoe's daughter, and I think Fern might be too."

"Okay. Just go across the highway, and there's a gravel road. You'll meet a cat named Flora close to to where you're trying to go, and she will show you where to go from there."
"Okay, thanks! We will get going right away." Fern meowed.

Moon stopped, turned around, leapt forward. She grabbed the frozen young cat by the scruff and launched her to the other side. But she was too late. The car's big black wheels drove right over Fern.
Moon gasped, and it all went black as the car right behind the first loomed over her.

Chapter 14~ I'm sorry

[image]

Fern winced as a sharp pain went shooting up her tail and back leg. She opened her eyes quickly, heart pounding.
It was almost dark, and the roaring of monsters had slowed. She stood shakily. Her broken front leg started to hurt again, and her back leg felt like a fox was trying to tare it off. And her tail was hurting too.

She glanced at her surroundings. She saw a black and white bundle of fur on the side of the thunderpath, and she hopped over to it. "No, no!" She cried. "Moon! Why?" She placed her muzzle on the she-cat. She was cold. "I'm sorry. I'm so sorry."

But it wasn't useful to just sit there. Moon would want her to continue. But it hurt. Everywhere.
She pulled the dead cat off the side of the road and hulled her to a bush. She took shelter underneath it as it got colder and darker, and her fur fluffed up to keep herself warm.
She fell asleep slowly, thinking of the poor black and white she-cat.

Fern blinked awake. She felt drained, but she knew that she must keep going. She got up and stretched. She knew that she should bury Moon, but she wasn't strong enough. She could put weight on her back paw still, so it wasn't broken, but she could hardly put any weight on her front paw. She could feel that the bone was out of place again.

But she couldn't do anything about that now. She started padding down the side of a gravel road, heart light. She might make it to her family today.

"Hi."
Fern spun around to face a beautiful ragdoll she-cat with bright blue crossed eyes.
"You look familiar." She continued. "And your front leg doesn't look very good. Would you like me to help you?"

Fern nodded. She'd gone through so much these last few moons that she didn't care who she could trust.
"Are you okay? What's wrong?"
"I-" Fern shook her head.
"I'm Flora, by the way." She meowed. "And you look like Snowshoe's missing daughter."

I'm stuck in all my other books at the moment, but writer's block won't last long. I hope.

Chapter 15~ These past few moons

[image]

Starpaw's wounds had healed quicker than anycat had thought, and now she was sleeping in the apprentice's den.
"Starpaw!" Snowpaw called. Snowpaw was one of her best friends now.
"Hmm?" She raised her head sleepily.
"Stonestar wants to talk to you."
"O-okay." As Starpaw scrambled to her paws, she almost tripped over Leafpaw.
"Sorry." She whispered.
Leafpaw grunted, still half asleep.

"You've been with us for a while now. I think you should come to the gathering tonight." Stonestar meowed when Starpaw entered the leader's den.
"Really?" She stepped back in shock. "I-" She didn't know what to say. If she went to the gathering, she would have to face Wetbranch- and her whole clan! But it would be rude to refuse to go. "I would be honored." She dipped her head, paws shaking. What would become of tonight?

Starpaw shifted her paws uneasily as she walked behind Snowpaw. The Treeclan cats emerged into the clearing, and she was relieved to see that Moonclan wasn't there yet.
"Hello, Stonestar." The Brookclan leader dipped his head as Stonestar jumped up onto the Meeting-stump.
"Hello, Foxstar." Stonestar nodded back.
While they waited for Moonclan to arrive, Snowpaw beckoned her to sit with the medicine cats. "What did you say about your apprenticeship again? Was it that you wanted to be a medicine cat?"
"Yes." Starpaw answered.
"Well, if you're gonna join Treeclan, we might be able to train

together. Of course, I'm older than you, so I might be your mentor when I'm a full medicine cat."
"That would be cool." *But who know how Moonclan will react to this.*
As if summoned, Lightstar padded down into the clearing, followed by Wetbranch and , then the rest of the Moonclan cats.
Starpaw ducked her head, hoping that they wouldn't notice her. To late.
"Starpaw?!" Hazelfur exclaimed as she padded over to sit with the medicine cats.
"Starpaw?" Murmurs and mutters went through the Moonclan cats.
"Starpaw's here!"
"Starpaw?"
"Why is she here?"
"And why does she smell like Treeclan?"
"What happened?"
"Wetbranch, you said that a fox took her life!"
"Yea, Wetbranch! What happened? Why is Starpaw in Treenclan?"
Wetbranch was at a loss for words. She backed away.
"I found her." Amberflame stepped forward. "I saw everything that happened. She was attacked. By Wetbranch."
"What?" The Moonclan deputy hissed. "That's outrageous! I would never kill her!"
"But you did." Starpaw somehow felt the strength and courage to say. "You tried to kill me. Because I knew something they didn't." She gestured to the rest of Moonclan.
Wetbranch ducked her head. She obviously knew that there was no getting out of this. "Well, you see," She snarled. "while you all have been resting from war, and you've become weak, something has been getting stronger. These past few moons, life has only been hard for some. Such as... Starpaw. Or Fernpaw. Or if you'd rather call her Featherpaw, or Fern, that works too. But life will get hard from here on- for those of you who survive, anyway."
Starpaw crouched low as a strange rustling sound came from the bushes.
Then out leapt cats. Too many to count. They were strangely hard to see, like shadows they moved. And they came to fight.
"These next few moons will bring death!"

Part two

[image]

[image]

I guess you've made it.

Chapter 16~ Storm?

[image]

"Come along now, Fern" Flora purred in comfort, leading the limping cat along the side of a gravel road that turned off from the first one she'd been traveling on. "We're almost there. Snowshoe will be so happy to see you!"
"I- I don't even know my own mother. How will any of them accept me?"
"They will."

"And you said I have siblings?"
"Yes. You've got a brother and a sister. I don't remember their names because I don't really visit them very often."
"Do you have kits?" Fern asked.
"Yes. I have five. Patrick, Fiona, Jack, Frosty and Wing."

"Will I get to meet them?"
"Yes. We're going to go there right now, so that I can help you with those legs of yours. Then you can go to Snowshoe."
"Okay."

Fern's heart thumped in her chest as the neared the place that Flora called the 'Cat Shed'. Maybe Fern would finally find her lost memory. Then she would know where she really belonged.
"Are you sure you're ready for this?" Jack noticed her hesitation.
"I-" She stopped in her tracks. Right in front of her, there was a grey she-cat with black spots, her toes black.

"Fern, that is Hawk. She's Snowshoe's sister." Fiona purred, her tail waving in greeting.
"Hi Flora, Fiona, Jack." Hawk squinted as if trying to figure out who the fourth one was. Fern ducked her head.

"This is Fern." Flora brushed her tail over Fern's back.
"You look familiar. Come here."
Fern was unsure what to do. Should she listen to this strangely familiar cat or not?

"Go on." Fiona nudged her forwards. She stumbled off of the gravel and landed on the grass in front of Hawk.

Hawk froze. She sniffed Fern. "Snowshoe! You might want to come here. Now!"
A grey she-cat poked her head out of a hole in the side of the cat shed and stiffened. She jumped over to Fern, eyes wide in shock. "Storm?"

Chapter 17~ When Fernpaw disappeared

[image]

Starpaw sprang forward. She wasn't about to get beaten by this cat attacking her. A tom, she could tell by the scent. But she couldn't *see* him.
The tom lashed out at her, catching her on the cheek. She spun around and realized that she was surrounded. There were too many cats against her at once!
"Starpaw!" It was Snowpaw. "Quick! We're medicine cat apprentices! We can't fight!" She was standing on a branch.

Starpaw hadn't ever actually climbed before, but she was Treeclan now, so she leapt over the head of the tom attacking her and gripped the bark, pulling herself up.
"This is weird." Branchfoot was in the branch above her. "I've seen this before. But only in nightmares."
"I think we've all seen it." Hazelfur meowed.
"Yes." Blacknose agreed. "Every night."
"I've seen it too." Snowpaw growled.
"We all have." Redpaw hissed.

"And it all started..." Branchfoot trailed off, like he just figured something out.
"When?" Starpaw was curious.
"When Fernpaw disappeared."
"Fernpaw... you mean Fern?" Redpaw crouched on his branch.
"Fernpaw?" Snowpaw hissed. "She died. Ashpaw said that she saw her and Pineclaw fall over a cliff."

"But she didn't die. Rustycloud saved her!"
Just then, Starpaw noticed a stream of strange cats disappear.
"They're gone." She saw the injured cats all over the clearing, some dead, some wounded very badly.
"Let's go help our clans." Branchfoot climbed down.

"Yes, let's. We can talk more about this at the half-moon meeting."

"Then does Starpaw come home with us?" Lightstar asked, confused. "And where's Wetbranch?"
"And where are some of my Warriors?" Stonestar demanded.
"They've gone." Starpaw hissed. She sniffed one of the dead Brookclan cats. Wetbranch's scent was on the dead cat's throat. "They were on those shadowy cat's side. They've been spying. Looking for our weaknesses. And now that they know enough, they are coming back. To take what they want." Starpaw couldn't believe she'd just said that. It didn't sound like her.
All the other cats were staring at her in shock.

"They're bringing a new age of fear upon us." Bluenose stepped forward. "And it will not work!" But Starpaw could tell that he was lying.
"Lier." She hissed under her breath. Then said a bit louder, "I would like to go back with Treeclan."
"What? Why?" Hazelfur asked. "I would love to have you as mine and Blacknose's apprentice!"
"I'm sorry."

Chapter 18~ Flashback

[image]

"I- I- You're- I'm-" Fern stuttered. She looked into Snowshoe's green eyes- the same color as her own.
"Storm, you've come home!" Snowshoe licked Fern's forehead, then backed away quickly, realizing that she was confused. "Maybe I should tell you the whole story."
"Yes- please do..." The young grey she-cat nodded. This was too much to take in at once. She followed the older cats, nodding goodbye to Flora, Jack and Fiona.

"There was a windy, very bad storm the day I lost you." Snowshoe started. But she didn't get any farther. Fern closed her eyes, and a flash of lighting flashed across her vision.
Rain pelted down, and Fern felt herself running. She slipped a few times, but she kept going.
"Mama!" A scream sounded from ahead. "Mama! Help me!"

Fern stopped at the edge of a river- it was swollen, and flowing vey fast.
"Don't worry, Feather!" She heard herself yowl. "I'm coming!"
On an over hanging branch, a small grey she-kit with white toes was struggling to cling on.
"Help me!" She started to slip.

"No!" Fern leapt up onto the branch.
"Storm! Don't!" A very tiny black tom-kit hissed from the bank as Fern started up the slippery branch. "Let mama help!"
Fern recognized Snowshoe through the pouring rain.
"I've got this! I know I got her into this, and I will get her out of it!"
The grey and white kit slipped.
"Feather!" Snowshoe howled.

But Fern had gotten there right in time. She crouched there, trembling, trying to pull Feather up. But she was too heavy, even though she was not the biggest of the litter.
Fern felt herself slipping. "Hold on!" Snowshoe called. She jumped

onto the branch. It waved. Fern fell backwards. She held onto Feather just long enough for her to get a grip, the she fell.
"Storm!" The black kit wailed through the rain.

"No!" Snowshoe grabbed Feather and threw her ashore.
Then another cat- a black and white tom- jumped in after her, but Fern was already being tossed in the current, and it all faded away to darkness.

All of the cats so far in this chapter are real cats- in case you didn't know.
And, for no reason, I took the picture at the top. I don't know why I typed that, but anyway...

Bye for now!!!
-Meowlia

Chapter 19~ A sky without stars

[image]

"But Starpaw! You belong in Moonclan!" One of the cats in the clearing yowled as she turned to leave.
"But I was almost killed there. I would like to become a Treeclan medicine cat. Then she noticed Maplepaw. He looked hurt.

Starpaw took a step back. She hadn't realized how Maplepaw had felt about her.
"I'm sorry." She meowed after a moment. "I just can't stay." Then she saw Smallpaw in the background. Her lips were curled into a snarl. "And Smallpaw is a traitor." She added.
Smallpaw backed away, shock all over her face. "Wha-?"
"Starpaw, why would you say that?" Lightstar hissed.

"Because it's true! She watched Seedclaw get killed. I know that, and you don't have to believe me. No one will ever, I know that. I'm just an uneducated apprentice. I understand that that's how all you Warriors think. But I know what I speak is true. Smallpaw wanted me dead as much as Wetbranch did."
Lightstar didn't seem to know what to say to that. Instead, she lead her clan out of the clearing.

"So, Starpaw, is it your wish to become a medicine cat apprentice of Treeclan?" Stonestar asked.
"Yes. If you want me." Starpaw nodded. It had been a few days since she'd moved to Treeclan. And now Stonestar had finally decide to ask.
"Then we will hold your ceremony tonight."
"Thank you, Stonestar." Starpaw nodded, excitement thumping inside her.
As she padded towards the apprentice's den, she noticed Pouncepaw and Silverpaw looked upset. *Seriously?* And now she knew why they always volunteered to help her when she needed it.

"Starpaw, I asum you'd like to keep your name, so, Branchfoot, will you take Starpaw as your apprentice? It might be hard, because you'll have two apprentices."
"I think Snowpaw is almost ready to be a full medicine cat anyway. Yes, I will mentor Starpaw." Branchfoot nodded.

Starpaw gazed at Snowpaw. They were going to the half-moon meeting soon. Without thinking, she padded out of the medicine cat den, and looked up. She gasped when she did so.
The sky was a dark blue, and clear. Too clear. There wasn't a star in sight.

If any of you don't like the new style of cover, I can change it. I just thought I should try to make it less blurry- and look how it turned out.

Bye for now!!!
-Meowlia

Chapter 20~ Not it was, it is

[image]

"I'm- this is where I came from, right?" Fern blinked her eyes open, staring into Snowshoe's face.
"It is." She nodded.
"I'm not Fern. Was my name Storm?"
"It was."

"No. Not it *was,* it *is*." *Storm.* That name felt right. "I'm Storm."
"I'm glad you're back." Snowshoe purred. "Feather and T.C should be back soon."
Just then, seven kittens filed in. Storm recognized two of them- a grey she-kit and a tom- both of whom had white toes- same as Snowshoe's.

Storm ducked her head when she saw all the eyes gaze at her.
"Storm?" The grey she-kit- probably Feather- asked, eyes glowing. "Is that you?"
"Y- yes, I'm Storm." Storm nodded slowly.
"Storm!" The black tom announced with joy. The two kits ran forward, covering Storm with licks.
"Whoa-" She backed away. She had never had littermates- other than Owlkit- who'd ever been happy to see her. It was a lot for her, and she didn't know how to handle it. "I'm sorry. I'm not use to this."

"That's okay." Feather purred in understanding. "You'll get use to it."
Then T.C sighed. "We never forgot about you, Storm." His voice was quite squeaky, and he was very small. "You were awesome to save Feather, but why didn't you..."
"Wait for Snowshoe to come?" Storm suggested when he trailed off.
"Yeah."

"I don't know. I guess I was just scared. I didn't want to loose my sister."
"You saved my life." Feather moved closer. "Did Boots save you?"
"Who's Boots?"

"Boots is my dad." A tabby she-kit poked his head through the entrance.
"No, I- Lightsky saved me. She said she found me with a dead kittypet. A black and white one."
"Boots is dead?!" The shocked cry came from a white she-cat with grey tabby splotches.
"Uh- yes...?"

"No! He promised he'd come back!" The white and grey cat leapt up to the second level of the cat shed to be alone.
"I- what?"
"That's Lily. She and Boots were mates. But he jumped in the river to try to save you. Who's Lightsky?" Snowshoe lead her up onto a cat tower and to the second level, where there was a bowl of kibble.

"Maybe I should tell you my story?" She asked.
"Yes. Even what happened to your legs."
"You may want to get all of the kits. They're going to want to here this story."
"On it!" T.C ran out the door, and Storm got ready to share her story.

The picture at the top is Feather.

Chapter 21~ For the future

[image]

Starpaw felt shivers run through her body as she gazed at the half-moon. There were no stars at all.
Is that a sign that Starclan doesn't want me to be a medicine cat?
"Or is it Starclan snowing you that you shouldn't be here... maybe you should be... dead?"
Starpaw spun around to see green eyes glaring into hers.
"Bluenose?" She hissed.
"No, I'm not Bluenose." The green eyed cat stepped out of the shadows. Not Bluenose. He was brown, and there was a scar on his muzzle, and on his side. Plus, to make him even scarier, he was almost transparent- like a ghost.

"Who are you?" She hissed, trying to make out all of his features.
"I'm-" He broke off, backing away. Snowpaw had just came out of the den. "I'll be back. This is for the future. The only way to survive." And he disappeared.
"Are you okay?" Snowpaw asked, making Starpaw jump as she stared at the empty spot that the cat had been. "You look like you just saw a ghost!"

Umm... "No. I just- thought I saw a cat. Never mind. Are we going now?"
"Once Branchfoot is done talking to Stonestar, yes."
"I'm here. You two ready?" He looked at Starpaw right in the eyes.
"Yes." She agreed. It was time to become a Treeclan medicine cat.

Starpaw lay her head against the cold, smooth Silverstone. It sent tingles throughs her body. Then when she opened her eyes, it wasn't what she'd expected.
It was white. Everything. All she could see was blinding, white lights. And it wouldn't stop.
Then two huge, unblinking green eyes.

They stared at her, gazing deep into her own eyes.
"Y-you look familiar." She squinted as a grey cat figure emerged.

"Do I?" The grey she-cat asked. "You should recognize me."
"I-I- I don't know..."

"Guess again." The she-cat was very young. Younger than Starpaw herself. She had light grey stripes and a crooked tail- even more crooked than Starpaw's. The grey she-cat's tail looked broken. Snapped in two spots. But she didn't seem to notice. She lashed it.
"Who gave you your crooked tail?" It seemed to be a test.

"A kit from Treeclan. Why?" Then Starpaw knew. "Your that kit?! Why're you in my dreams?!"
"I'm who you know as Fernkit." The cat nodded. "But I'm not actually here." The cat changed. She grew, and her tail became long a fluffy, and her fur turned white.
"Waterheart?"
"You remember me. I come with a message."

This is my new book➡

Bye for now!!!
-Meowlia

Chapter 22~ In the past

[image]

"I remember almost all of it," Storm began. "Lightsky was always kind to me, and so was Owlkit. But Blackkit always hated me, and I'm pretty sure Silverkit just likes to be with Blackkit.
Ashkit and Boulderkit were in the nursery too.

Me and Ashkit were good friends, and on my first day out of the nursery, I was with her." She explained that day and all its glory, when she got teased by an annoying tom named Treepaw, and gave him a permanent scar, ripping his ear in half.
"Was there lots of blood?" T.C demanded to know, and Storm could see he looked at her in respect.
"There was some. But not much. I'd rather not describe it in full detail," she admitted.
"Oh."

T.C would've made a great warrior, Storm thought as she continued. "I snuck out of camp once." Her heart ached as she thought about that awful day. "I-I made Owlkit come with me... we- we found a forest..." she kept trailing off, hoping that Snowshoe would get it that she didn't want to talk about that day, but Snowshoe was busy licking Fearher's forehead, so Storm had to continue, "We crossed another clan's land without realizing it. And when we got to the forest, a very heavy mist formed, and me and Owlkit got separated from on each other.

Then-" she broke off, eyes stinging. "Then I found him. At the bottom of a cliff.
He didn't survive the fall. I saw him at the bottom and..." she couldn't bring herself to go on.
Snowshoe noticed. "It's okay. You can stop now."
"No, I would like to go on." Storm blinked the blurriness away. "The clan who's territory we crossed did not take it well... they attacked. And while the battle was going on, one of my own clanmates attacked me, but a Moonclan cat pulled me out of the way just in

time."
"Warriors seem to fight a lot." Feather noted. "Snowshoe told us stories about their battles." The grey she-kit paused. The added, "You really lived there?"
"Yes." Storm nodded. "I did."

"Please continue!" T.C begged.
"Okay... I attacked the cat who saved me-"
"Why on earth would you do that?!" Jack demanded.
"Jack!" Snowshoe meowed. "Let Storm continue."
"Sorry."

"I broke her tail. I'm pretty sure it's permanently crooked now..." she kept talking, explaining how she was made an apprentice, and her mentor- Pineclaw- had almost killed her, then chased her over the edge of a cliff. "He hit a rock, and I thought I was a goner. But then... I felt icy water, and I saw a cat jump in after me."

"Maybe that's enough for tonight." Snowshoe interrupted. "You need to rest."
That was true. Storm felt like her legs were going to fall off, and her back needed to stretch. All of her muscles were aching.
"I'll show you to your nest!" Feather volunteered.
"Okay." Storm got up snd stumbled sleepily after her sister.

Once she was alone in her nest, she lay there to think of everything that had happened over the last day. She'd met her mother, brother and sister, she'd found a safe place, she'd met so many other cats her age, and best of all, she felt like she'd found where she belonged.

Picture: T.C

Chapter 23~ Ashes

[image]

Ashpaw stood outside the forest. The morning sunlight soaked into her fur. She'd been coming to that spot everyday for a very long time- since Fernpaw had fallen over the edge of the cliff that was in front of her.

She'd seen everything happen. She'd seen Fernpaw fall. She'd seen Pineclaw hit the rock at the bottom. She'd seen the orange and white cat jump into the river and pull the unconscious Fernpaw out, saving her.

But something had stirred in Ashpaw that day. And ever since, she'd come to that same spot where she'd watched Fernpaw survive, to try to figure out what that feeling was. The feeling was almost guilt, because she'd been the one to tell Fernpaw to run, but also happiness that Fernpaw was still alive, and Ashpaw always hoped that one day she would see her friend again. But who knows when? Or how? Ashpaw sure didn't.

"Ashpaw?" A meow sounded behind her. She spun around to face Pouncepaw. Pouncepaw's dark brown pelt looked much lighter than what it really was in the morning sunlight. "Why do you always come here? I see you leave every morning."
"I- umm... I just like the view." She pointed at the fields and trees. A light mist had settled, leaving streaks of gold as the sun snuck it's rays around the trees.
"It is quite pretty, isn't it?" He sat down beside her.

"Yes." She let out a small sigh of relief that he'd accepted it.
"Do you think about your brother a lot?"
Ashpaw took a step back, as if the question had knocked the breath out of her. She missed Boulderpaw terribly. Her only littermate had been murdered by a fluffy black tom a few days after he was apprenticed. Ashpaw had blamed it on Fernpaw for a while, but later she'd changed her mind.

"Yes." Her voice quivered as she spoke. But she managed to keep her head high as she continued. "I know he wouldn't want me to be broken and useless though."
"I'm sure he misses you. But he's safe in Starclan."
But what about all the other things he'll miss out on?! He'll never get his warrior name... and he won't be there when I get mine.

She lowered her head for a few heartbeats. Boulderpaw deserved a moment of silence.
But a strong scent filled the air about halfway through. Her pelt began to feel warm- warmer than it should- and when she lifted her head, she saw little grey specks fluttering around her.
"Ashes?" She mewed. The she looked behind her.
The pine forest was ablaze.

Fire?!! Moonclan is on fire!
"Pouncepaw! Moonclan is on fire!"
"Wha-" His eyes widened. "That fire is getting really close to Treeclan..."
Ashpaw nodded, stood, and ran. She had to get back to warn her clanmates!

Chapter 24~ Is this home?

[image]

Storm woke to the sound of a rustling bag.
"Storm!" The meow came from T.C. "It's time to eat! You should really meet the housefolk! She's really nice!"

Storm got up to stretch. It took her a split second to realize that he'd said 'housefolk'.
"Umm..." Her voice was scratchy from all the talking she'd done the day earlier.
"It's fine. I know warriors didn't like housefolk, but the housefolk here take care of us. Trust me." Snowshoe purred.

"Okay." Storm crawled slowly out from behind the small box she had been sleeping behind and blinked in the morning light.
When the twoleg saw her, she covered her mouth, like she was surprised to see her.
Then she bent down, reaching her hand to Storm.
Storm fluffed out her pelt, and her instinct told her to hiss and scratch.
But she didn't. She knew this twoleg. As if long ago.

So she let the twoleg pet her. She even purred.
"See, it's not so bad," T.C purred. "She takes care of us."
"She really does," Snowshoe agreed as the twoleg stood up.
A few minutes later, the twoleg left, leaving Storm alone with her family and new friends.
"So," a different kitten approached her. "Would you like us to show you around, or...?"
"Sure," Storm nodded. "That would be great. What's your name again?"
"Pepper."
"Okay, hi, Pepper."

The land on the small farm was nice, and with all the leaf-fall colors, it was beautiful. The twolegs that lived there had a lot of chickens, and two dogs.

One of the dogs loved teasing the cats, but Snowshoe and Hawk knocked some sense into her with their claws.

At the chickencoop, there was another cat. She introduced herself as Lily, and she had a few kittens- though there were SO MANY CATS that Storm forgot most of their names.
By the time Pepper was done the tour, it was almost nightfall, so they all gathered outside on the roof of the cat shed.

"So, how'd you like it?" Snowshoe asked.
"It was... nice." Storm had always been use to the worries of clan life, but here... "You barely worry at all," she murmured.
"Why would we need to?" Fiona purred.
"You wouldn't. I think this place is amazing. Thank you for letting me stay."
"You're my daughter. I'm never going to chaise you away. I promise."
With that, Storm stared at her paws. *Is this home?*

Chapter 25~ Bright flames

[image]

Starpaw sniffed the air. It smelled... burnt.
A fire? But it's almost leaf-bare! There shouldn't be a fire! But either way, she ran out of the medicine cat den and headed for Stonestar's den.
"Stonestar?" She called into the den when she climbed up to it.
A few seconds crawled past before Stornestar answered, "Yes?"
"Stonestar, I think I smell a fire."

Stonestar was out of the den within a heartbeat. But brfore he could say anything else, two cats burst into camp.
Ashpaw and Pouncepaw.
"Fire!" Ashpaw yowled. "Moonclan is on fire! And it's coming for Treeclan!"
"Moonclan's on fire?!" Starpaw didn't even remember that Moonclan wasn't her clan anymore. She dashed out of camp, running as fast as she could- towards Moonclan.
"Starpaw! Come back!" Stonestar called.But she didn't listen.

When she got close, the smoke was blinding. She stumbled through it. She could here cats through the roaring of the fire.
"Get the kits!" Someone yowled- whom Starpaw recognized as Bluewhisker.
"I'm trying! Wingkit is with you, right?" That was Lionfoot.
"Yes. Is Rosekit still in there?"

"I don't think so. I think Lightstar got her."
"And Leopardkit?"
"He's not with me! Is he with you?"

Starpaw ran forward. Her heart was pounding, and it felt like it was in her ears.
"Starpaw?!" A shocked meow asked. "What are you doing here? You betrayed Moonclan!"
"No, I didn't!" Starpaw hissed. "You heard what Wetbranch said. And I didn't come back because... we don't have time for this!

Where's Leopardkit?"

"Starpaw's right," Lionfoot agreed. "Leopardkit! Where are you?"
The three of them searched and searched, but the fire was closing in.
"We have to get out of here!" Bluewhisker hissed. "We just have to hope that Leopardkit went with Lightstar and the rest."

"But what if he didn't?" Lionfoot challenged.
"Then..." the queen shook her head. "No. He went with Lightstar."
Starpaw turned away from the two parents. She knew Leopardkit had to be somewhere.
"Starpaw, we have to go *now*." And tree crashed to the ground, flames erupted everywhere.
"Okay, let's go then." Starpaw watched them run. She wouldn't give up. Even if this was the death of her. She would find the kit.

She jumped over a flaming branch, coughing as the smoke got in her lungs. Then she heard him.
"Help!"
"Help us!"
Two kits? Oh no. Rosekit didn't go with Lightstar!
She raced towards the sound and saw... Leopardkit, clinging to a branch, fire raging below, and a different kit, slowly slipping off the branch.
"No!" She howled, launching towards the tree.

She didn't know that kit, but she couldn't watch it burn.
Before she reached the tree, the kit managed to get a grip, pulling itself up to safety, but Starpaw slipped.

Chapter 26~ Lost has been found

[image]

"Mom! Hazel is scaring me with her weird eyes again!"
Storm woke to the sound of kits meowing.
"For crying out loud, Domino!" An older cat's voice sighed. "It isn't that weird. And you're the one who kept asking her to do it!"
Storm stood up, yawned and stretched, then padded outside.
There were more cats outside- ones that se hadn't gotten to meet yet.
There were five kits, two black and white, and three Siamese. And the mother was Siamese.
"Good morning," Fiona purred from behind her. "You didn't get to meet Luna yet."
"No, I didn't," the gray she-kit agreed.

"I'm Pearl!" The darkest Siamese kit exclaimed. "And I wanna be a warrior! What was it like? Did you fight? Who was your leader? Why did you leave? If I was there, I would *never* leave!"
"Pearl!" Luna snapped. "Storm just woke up! Be nice!"
"Sorry..."
"Now, the rest of you, introduce yourselves."
"I'm Buddy!" The black and white one with a splotch of black under the nose yowled.
"I'm Domino," the kit who looked almost exactly like Buddy said quietly.
"Hazel!"
"Cheesecake!"

The two light lynx-point Siamese kittens that looked the same said at the same time.
"Why do you two-" Storm pointed at Cheesecake and Hazel. "-and you two-" she gestured to Buddy and Domino. "-look so similar, and Pearl doesn't?"

"No one knows!" Pearl purred. "But I'm happy I don't look like Buddy or Domino!"
"Hey!" Buddy sprang at her, and they tumbled around in the grass. Meanwhile, Hazel was laughing so hard that she started coughing, and Cheesecake snickered, while Domino stayed silent, though he obviously thought it was funny.

"Hey, Storm?" Fiona said. "I had a strange... dream. I think I was supposed to tell you about it."
"Hmm?" Storm asked, not concerned. "what is it?"
"The two cats that came to me were kind of sparkly, and in a sparkly forest."

"Continue," she promped. Nothing clicked.
"The one was a brown tabby. She said her name was Leafheart. And the other one was white. She said her name was..."

"Waterheart?" Storm guessed. That seemed like so long ago. Her heart started aching. "What did they say?"
"They said, '*Nothing can calm the Rising Storm, and now lost has been found, so there is hope'.* Then Waterheart said, 'the rising Storm needs to come home."

Done :D

[image]

I can't believe I'm done the second book!

(there's an end scene at the bottom)

Random facts:

• most of the cats in this book were real

• I forgot about the brown tabby cat, and now I need to remember what he was for

• I was going to add about 10 more chapter to this, but that was the perfect place to stop sooo..... I guess book 3 will be the longest

• I forgot the entire plot for about a month

• there aren't very many random facts for this book

And here's Storm's theme for this book:

[There should be a GIF or video here. Update the app now to see it.]

Thanks for reading this far, and I hope you enjoy the next book, Unbreakable Promise

I'll start it in a as soon as I can :)

And this is just a reminder:

This is MY work, everything in here belongs to ME.

If you are reading this on a platform other than Wattpad, where I originally published this, beware of various malware and viruses. To read the original, **come to Wattpad!**

TEENFIC.NET IS STEALING THESE STORIES, I KNOW SOME PEOPLE WERE DIRTY THIEVES AND GREEDY RIGHT AFTER THEY DESTROYED THE FORESTS FOR THEIR JUNK, BUT NOT TO THIS POINT. I AM DISGUSTED IN WHOEVER STOLE THIS, AND I HOPE THAT YOU WILL GET A HARD PUNISHMENT. THIEVES BELONG IN JAIL!

End:

Fiona stepped through the entrance. She couldn't get the words out of her head. Leafheart had given her a message, and she hadn't been allowed to say anything about it to anyone. Not even to Storm, who was now sleeping peacefully inside the Catshed.

The message Waterheart had given her the night before, she'd shared with Storm, but this one wasn't for anyone to know. Yet.

As she shook out her dark, fluffy tabby fur, to get some of the small snowflakes out, she caught a strange scent.
Cautiously, she approached the tiny squeaking sound, heading for a hokey net.

Trying to get to the other side to see what was going on, she stuck her head through one of the holes, trying to squeeze through.
But just as she raised her front paw, she felt claws on her neck.

"Who's there?" She struggled to get air. In the dark, she twisted her head, getting a glimpse of dark amber eyes, and long, black fur.
"Starclan is waiting for you, kitty," the tomcat snarled.
"What?"

"You know something... Now I must make sure you never tell anyone. Especially that young cat, Storm."

Fiona opened her mouth to yowl, but the dark cat pressed down, cutting off her air circulation.
Slowly, she felt darkness seep into her head, and everything faded.

The sad fact about that scene, is that I actually found Fiona tangled in a hokey net T-T (yes, she was dead)
I just decided to add it into the book, just to add more to it... to give Fiona the honor of living in other people's memories, not just my own. She deserves SO much more than what she got T-T

This is MY work, everything in here belongs to ME.

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Yea-

Book three is family started (sorry it took so long)

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(Link in the comments)